

Orchard" near the Sacred Heart Church. Both of their families were in the ranching and canning business. Vic and Mae each have three siblings, who all reside in San Jose, and Mae survives her late sister, Dolly.

Vic and Mae have been close since childhood when they met in elementary school. The nuns at school were constantly busy trying to interfere in the couple's endless chase, but to no avail! Vic would chase Mae, and when stopped, Mae would in turn chase Vic.

The couple married on September 10, 1930, at Sacred Heart Church in San Jose when Vic was twenty and Mae was nineteen. They settled into a home on Willow Street, near their cherry orchards, where Vic worked in the family business.

In 1966, when Vic became a partner in the Indian Wells Country Club, home of the "Bob Hope Classic Golf Tournament", Vic and Mae moved to Southern California. The couple has homes in Carmel Valley Ranch Country Club and Indian Wells Country Club. They have also maintained a long-time membership to The Thunderbird Club in Rancho Mirage.

Vic and Mae have one child, Victor, Jr. Victor, Jr. and his wife, Jeannie, lived in Gilroy for many years but moved to Indian Wells, California in 1990.

Vic has generously contributed to the Boys and Girls Clubs of San Jose throughout his life. He, along with his brother, Salvador, donated a room at Santa Clara University. Vic was an active member of the Jaycees, the San Jose Chamber of Commerce and the Santa Clara County Horseman's Association. He was also a member of the Sheriff's Posse.

Today, Vic and Mae divide their time between San Jose and Southern California. They have lived a long, healthy and happy life.

Congratulations to Vic and Mae LoBue on the occasion of their seventy-fifth wedding anniversary. Their marriage is a testament to happiness, commitment and fulfillment: What began as a childhood game of chase has become a lifetime of love.

HONORING JERRY L. REPPERT ON BEING NAMED THE NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Jerry L. Reppert, who recently was appointed as president of the National Newspaper Association.

The National Newspaper Association, created in 1885, represents owners, publishers and editors of America's community newspapers and is the largest newspaper association in the United States, currently having more than 3,200 members. As President of the NNA, Mr. Reppert will be responsible for protecting, promoting and enhancing America's community newspapers.

Prior to election as President, Mr. Reppert held several other positions within NNA, including Vice President, State Chairman, Regional Director and Government Affairs Director. In addition, Mr. Reppert has made important contributions to the newspaper publishing business in Southern Illinois, having served as

president of the Southern Illinois Editorial Association and the Illinois Press Association, where he played a pivotal role in establishing the Illinois Press Foundation, the fund-raising arm of the Illinois Press Association. He continues to serve as the foundation's President to this day.

Jerry L. Reppert first began his career in managing newspapers by becoming editor of the Gazette-Democrat, a community newspaper run by his family, based in Anna, Illinois. Mr. Reppert greatly expanded the small, weekly newspaper into Reppert Publications, which published weekly newspapers throughout Southern Illinois, including the Cairo Citizen in Cairo, the Navigator-Journal and Prairie Post in Grayville and Albion, the Tri-County Record in Dongola. Reppert Publications also published numerous specialty publications, several of which have received honors by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and Illinois Governor's Conference on Tourism.

In addition to his pursuits in publishing, Mr. Reppert has also been successful in many other enterprises. He is a founder of Anna-Jonesboro Cable TV and constructed a cable television system for it. In 1971 he opened his own furniture company: Reppert Office Furniture. He also served 20 years in the United States Navy Reserve and attained the rank of lieutenant commander.

Mr. Reppert and his wife, Dianne, have two daughters and two grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in an expression of congratulations to Mr. Jerry Reppert for his election to lead the National Newspaper Association and offer our best wishes during his tenure as President.

CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL FOR RABBI ARTHUR SCHNEIER

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, together with my colleagues Rep. TOM LANTOS and MICHAEL BILIRAKIS, I am introducing a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Rabbi Arthur Schneier, in recognition of his pioneering role in promoting religious freedom and human rights throughout the world, for close to half a century.

A holocaust survivor, and the Founder and President of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, Rabbi Schneier has devoted his life to overcoming the forces of hatred and intolerance.

He has been a pioneer in bringing together religious leaders to address ethnic or religious conflicts. For example, in Bosnia in 1997, he convened government and religious leaders to promote healing and conciliation between Orthodox, Muslim and Jewish communities. In the Balkans, the Caucasus and Central Asia he worked with the Orthodox Patriarch and the Turkish Government to hold the Peace and Tolerance Conference in 1994 and address religious and ethnic tensions in that area. In the former Yugoslavia, he mobilized religious leaders to halt the bloodshed of the early 1990s, holding the Religious Summit on the Former Yugoslavia and the Conflict Resolution Conference to build support and consensus among religious leaders of different faiths.

Since the early 1980s, he has led delegations of religious leaders to China to open a dialogue on religious freedom.

Born in Vienna, Austria, in 1930, Rabbi Schneier lived under Nazi occupation in Budapest during World War II and came to the United States in 1947. He has been the Spiritual Leader of the Park East Synagogue in New York City since 1962.

I hope my colleagues will join us in honoring this distinguished pioneer of religious freedom with a Congressional Gold Medal.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES RECOVERY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3824) to amend and reauthorize the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide greater results conserving and recovering listed species, and for other purposes:

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 3824. This legislation seeks to undermine one of the most successful and visionary environmental policies, the Endangered Species Act. For 32 years, the Endangered Species Act has been a safety net for wildlife, plants, and fish that are on the brink of extinction.

Since its enactment in 1973, the Endangered Species Act has prevented the extinction of hundreds of species. In fact, 99 percent of the species listed are still with us today, and more than two-thirds of all currently listed species are improving.

Minnesotans have witnessed the success of this Act first hand. In Minnesota, the bald eagle population grew from a dwindling 380 eagles in 1981 to more than 1,400 eagles today. This is more than double the recovery goal of 600 eagles. We have seen the gray wolf population grow from 300 in 1975 to 3,020 in 2004. Again, that is more than double the recovery goal of 1,400 wolves. Minnesota is also home to the dwarf trout lily, which is found nowhere else in the world.

In April 2005, many of my constituents showed their support for endangered species during Aveda Corporation's Earth Month. In Aveda salons and stores across the country, more than 170,000 people signed petitions asking for a strong, fully funded Endangered Species Act. These petitions were delivered to the steps of the Capitol in July. The message is clear. Americans want to protect endangered species for future generations.

Unfortunately, H.R. 3824 makes it harder to protect threatened and endangered species. It repeals one of the most important parts of the act—critical habitat protection. Habitat destruction is the primary reason many animals end up on the Endangered Species List. Species with designated critical habitats recover at twice the rate of endangered species without critical habitat. Yet, this bill provides no alternative to protect the places where vulnerable species live.

This bill also creates a new corporate welfare entitlement for developers. Under this bill,